

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on November 10, 1997 he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bills:

S. 813. An act to amend chapter 91 of title 18, United States Code, to provide criminal penalties for theft and willful vandalism at national cemeteries.

S. 1377. An act to amend the Act incorporating the American Legion to make a technical correction.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 986. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the housing loan programs for veterans and eligible persons, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-153).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 1216. An original bill to approve and implement the OECD Shipbuilding Trade Agreement (Rept. No. 105-154).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1513. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of tax-exempt bond financing of certain electrical output facilities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1514. A bill to assess the impact of NAFTA, require the renegotiation of certain provisions of NAFTA, and provide for the withdrawal from NAFTA unless certain conditions are met; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 1515. A bill to amend Public Law 89-108 to increase authorization levels for State and Indian tribal, municipal, rural, and industrial water supplies, to meet current and future water quantity and quality needs of the Red River Valley, to deauthorize certain project features and irrigation service areas, to enhance natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FORD:

S. 1516. A bill to improve the Federal contract tower program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ABRAHAM:

S. 1517. A bill to extend the Visa Waiver Pilot Program; considered and passed.

By Mr. BENNETT:

S. 1518. A bill to require publicly traded corporations to make specific disclosures in their initial offering statements and quarterly reports regarding the ability of their computer systems to operate after January 1, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. D'AMATO):

S. 1519. A bill to provide a 6-month extension of highway, highway safety, and transit programs pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991; considered and passed.

By Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1520. A bill to terminate the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 1521. A bill to provide a law enforcement exception to the prohibition on the advertising of certain electronic devices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNER:

S.J. Res. 38. A joint resolution granting the consent and approval of Congress for the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia to amend the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LOTT:

S. Res. 155. A resolution designating April 6 of each year as "National Tartan Day" to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish Americans to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1514. A bill to assess the impact of NAFTA, require the renegotiation of certain provisions of NAFTA, and provide for the withdrawal from NAFTA unless certain conditions are met; to the Committee on Finance.

NAFTA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, if the North American Free-Trade Agreement is an example of trade agreements established under fast-track procedures, then it should be no surprise that the vast majority of American citizens oppose renewing fast-track authority to the President.

An editorial published earlier this year in the Bismarck, ND Tribune stated that before Congress grants fast-track authority to the President, "The American people deserve a much better accounting than we have received so far of the impact of the first three years of the NAFTA."

The question of accountability and the performance of our Nation's current trade policies is the underlying issue in the debate whether this Congress should provide renewed fast-track authority.

In a few weeks we will mark the fourth anniversary of the passage of

NAFTA by Congress. It is not surprising that the proponents of fast track do not want to associate fast track with NAFTA. The simple fact is that NAFTA has been an unmitigated failure.

At a time when we have been hearing new promises being made to advance the cause of fast track, we need to remember the promises that were made to gain the passage of NAFTA.

We were promised increased exports, a greater number of jobs, and that these jobs would be higher paying jobs. We were promised improved living standards, reduced trade distortions, and improved competitiveness for the United States in North America and global markets. At the same time, the American public was promised that the environment would be protected, that drugs would be interdicted, that public welfare would be safeguarded, and basic human rights would be enhanced.

Yet, the facts show that NAFTA just doesn't measure up to its promises. The very first measure of failure is demonstrated in our trade balances with our NAFTA trading partners. The United States has gone from having a \$2 billion trade surplus prior to NAFTA with Mexico to a \$16 billion deficit this past year. At the same time, our trade deficit with Canada has more than doubled, escalating from \$11 billion to \$23 billion.

In its editorial review of NAFTA, the Bismarck Tribune concluded, "There has been enough pain associated with NAFTA and other trade agreements for Americans to insist on a scorecard we can read and understand before we go further."

I agree that we need a scorecard. It is for this reason that I am introducing the NAFTA Accountability Act today, together with Senators BYRD, CAMPBELL, HOLLINGS, INOUE, WELLSTONE, and SNOWE.

We need accountability. Promises that are made should be fulfilled. If they aren't, we need to go back to the drawing board and make the changes that are necessary to achieve the goals and promises that were originally set forth in NAFTA's preamble and statement of objectives.

This bill would establish benchmarks by which we could score NAFTA, including expanded markets, currency stability, jobs wages and living standards, U.S. manufacturing competitiveness, health and environment, illegal drugs, protection of rights, fair agricultural trade, and highway safety.

If NAFTA does not meet these benchmarks as promised, then the United States would provide notice and withdraw from NAFTA. In addition, the bill authorizes and directs the President to renegotiate provisions of NAFTA to correct trade deficits and currency distortions, to correct job loss, to protect public health and the environment, to interdict drug traffic, to correct agricultural provisions, and to ensure compliance with U.S. transportation standards.